

CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A system for testing a Web application comprising:
a Web scenario template specifying a sequence of Web application operations
and associated operational parameters, each said operation having an association with
an identifiable state of the Web application; and,
a server-side load driving mechanism configured to select individual ones of said
operations and associated operational parameters in said Web scenario template
based upon an identified state of the Web application, said server-side load driving
mechanism being further configured to dispatch operations in the Web application
which correspond to said selected ones of said operations and associated operational
parameters.

2. A Web application testing method comprising the steps of:
intercepting a network message from one of a plurality of network clients;
identifying session data in said network message and retrieving state information
for said session in the Web application ;
selecting an operation and associated operational parameters from a Web
scenario template based upon said retrieved state information; and,
invoking operations in the Web application, said operations corresponding to
said selected operation and associated operational parameters.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

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2 intercepting a network response to said invoked operations;
forwarding said network response to said one of said network clients; and,
retrieving new state information for the Web application corresponding to said
5 session in the Web application; and,
6 repeating said selecting and invoking steps for said new state information.

1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein said intercepting step comprises the step of
2 receiving a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) formatted network message in a load
3 driving servlet communicatively linked to the Web application.

1 5. The method of claim 2, wherein said invoking step comprises the step of
2 executing a dispatch-include servlet operation based upon said selected operation and
3 associated operational parameters.

1 6. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of logging application
2 performance data during the Web application testing.

1 7. The method of claim 2, wherein said selecting comprises the steps of:
2 selecting one of a set of Web scenario templates; and,
3 further selecting from within said selected Web scenario template, an operation
4 and associated operational parameters based upon said retrieved state information.

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8. The method of claim 7, wherein said step of selecting one of a set of Web scenario templates comprises the steps of:

3 establishing a mixing percentage for each one of said Web scenario templates,
4 said mixing percentage specifying a frequency for which said Web scenario template
5 will be selected; and,

6 selecting said one of said set of Web scenario templates according to said
7 established mixing percentage for said one of said set of Web scenario templates.

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9. A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for Web application testing, said computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

4 intercepting a network message from one of a plurality of network clients;

5 identifying session data in said network message and retrieving state information
6 for said session in the Web application ;

7 selecting an operation and associated operational parameters from a Web
8 scenario template based upon said retrieved state information; and,

9 invoking operations in the Web application, said operations corresponding to
10 said selected operation and associated operational parameters.

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10. The machine readable storage of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

2 intercepting a network response to said invoked operations;

3 forwarding said network response to said one of said network clients; and,

4 retrieving new state information for the Web application corresponding to said
5 session in the Web application; and,
6 repeating said selecting and invoking steps for said new state information.

1 11. The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said intercepting step
2 comprises the step of receiving a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) formatted network
3 message in a load driving servlet communicatively linked to the Web application.

1 12. The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said dispatching step
2 comprises the step of executing a dispatch-include servlet operation based upon said
3 selected operation and associated operational parameters.

1 13. The machine readable storage of claim 10, further comprising the step of logging
2 application performance data during the Web application testing.

1 14. The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said selecting comprises the
2 steps of:

3 selecting one of a set of Web scenario templates; and,
4 further selecting from within said selected Web scenario template, an operation
5 and associated operational parameters based upon said retrieved state information.

1 15. The machine readable storage of claim 14, wherein said step of selecting one of
2 a set of Web scenario templates comprises the steps of:

3 establishing a mixing percentage for each one of said Web scenario templates,
said mixing percentage specifying a frequency for which said Web scenario template
will be selected; and,

6 selecting said one of said set of Web scenario templates according to said
7 established mixing percentage for said one of said set of Web scenario templates.

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